

ROBERT D. BUNN BUILDING (Commercial Building)
16 Biltmore Avenue
Asheville
Buncombe County
North Carolina

HABS NO. NC-333

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11-ASHV,
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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Department of the Interior
Southeast Region
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

STATE North Carolina	COUNTY Buncombe	TOWN OR VICINITY Asheville
HISTORIC NAME OF STRUCTURE (INCLUDE SOURCE FOR NAME) Robert D. Bunn Building		HABS NO. NC-333
SECONDARY OR COMMON NAMES OF STRUCTURE Racket Store, Sanborn Maps 1896-1913		
COMPLETE ADDRESS (DESCRIBE LOCATION FOR RURAL SITES) 16 Biltmore Avenue, Asheville, North Carolina		
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE SOURCE) 1895; permit, Board of Aldermen, June 14, 1895		ARCHITECT(S) (INCLUDE SOURCE)
SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL, INCLUDE ORIGINAL USE OF STRUCTURE) One of Asheville's few remaining turn-of-the-century commercial structures, this building has been in continual use since its construction, with the exception of two years during the early thirties. Although facade was replaced in 1934, interior remains as in 1895.		
STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE) Minimal commercial classical		
MATERIAL OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS) Exterior brick bearing walls; wood frame within with steel supports added.		
SHAPE AND DIMENSIONS OF STRUCTURE (SKETCHED FLOOR PLANS ON SEPARATE PAGES ARE ACCEPTABLE) Rectangular, two stories plus basement, 140' x 33'		
EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE Present facade erected in 1934 when Biltmore Ave. was widened. Facade at second floor is three-bay with three round arch windows with radiating voussoirs and slightly projecting key, all of brick. Windows have a fanlight in upper round arched portion with five muntins. Lower section is a single fixed pane. Parapet in three bays with central bay raised. Recessed entrance.		
INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (DESCRIBE FLOOR PLANS, IF NOT SKETCHED) two rectangular rooms occupying entire space, one to each floor. Rectangular skylight 12' x 6' opens from roof to first floor, surrounded by railing with chamfered and molded handrail and square balusters. Stairway in rear of building is open stringer with same railing and balusters and with square newels. Some crown and picture molding.		
MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS WITH DATES Original facade replaced in 1934 when Biltmore Avenue was widened. Present facade is a part of a continuous facade joining six brick commercial structures of which three remain. The facades of all six are stylistically alike although of varying sizes.		
PRESENT CONDITION AND USE Present use is as retail shop for antiques. Condition fair.		
OTHER INFORMATION AS APPROPRIATE Shared party wall with # 18 Biltmore Avenue. Documentation for this structure was prepared by the Dept. of Planning and the Historic Resources Commission in compliance with a Memorandum of Agreement with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation.		
SOURCES OF INFORMATION (INCLUDE LISTING ON NATIONAL REGISTER, STATE REGISTERS, ETC.) Buncombe County, NC inventory of historic environment, Historic Resources Commission, 1981 Asheville Downtown Historic District, National Register of Historic Places, 1979		
COMPILER, AFFILIATION Carolyn A. Humphries, Director, Historic Resources Commission of Asheville and Buncombe County Carol Pennell Alberice, Dept. of Planning, City of Asheville		DATE June 18, 1985